

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, UR, CY

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS ON CYPRUS COUP

1. SOVIET PRESS (JULY 17) BROADENS ACCUSATION OF FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT IN CYPRUS COUP TO IMPLICATE NATO. IZVESTIYA (TASS) STORY ON WASHINGTON REACTION SUGGESTS U.S. MAY ALSO BE PLAYING DUBIOUS ROLE. PRAVDA FRONT-PAGES CYPRIOT COMMUNIST APPEAL FOR CONTINUED RESISTANCE AGAINST PUTSCH. NEWS COVERAGE REPORTS CONTINUED FIGHTING, MAKARIOS APPEAL AND CALLING OF UNSC SESSION. TASS SUMMARY OF FOREIGN REACTION STRESSES SUPPORT FOR MAKARIOS GOVERNMENT AND CONDEMNATION OF GREECE FOR INTERFERENCE IN CYPRIOT AFFAIRS. END SUMMARY.

2. PRAVDA COMMENTARY ON CYPRUS (BRAGIN) SAYS PUTSCH ATTEMPT IS CULMINATION OF PLOT DEVELOPED BY GREEK MILITARY BEGINNING AS FAR BACK AS 1963. BRAGIN RAISES OLD SAW ABOUT NATO PLOTS TO ESTABLISH PRESENCE ON CYPRUS BY EXPLOITING CYPRIOT NATIONALITY PROBLEM AND BACKING EOKA

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UNDERGROUND. PRESENT CRISIS RESULTED FROM CYPRIOT

GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO END EOKA TERRORISM AND SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY OF GREEK OFFICERS IN NATIONAL GUARD. BRAGIN CHARGES THAT REACTIONARY PUTSCH OF THESE ATHENIAN OFFICERS WILL LEAD INEVITABLY TO A GROWTH OF TENSION IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND A WORSENING OF GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS FOR WHICH THOSE BEHIND COUP MUST ACCEPT HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY. BEIRUT- DATELINED TASS SITREP ON CYPRUS (PRAVDA) ALSO SAYS IN BEIRUT IT IS POINTED OUT THAT "THREADS OF ANTI-GOVERNMENT PLOT AGAINST CYPRUS LEADS NOT ONLY TO ATHENS BUT ALSO TO NATO."

3. IZVESTIYA STORY REPLAYS BACK-TO-BACK SELECTED EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR INDEPENDENT CYPRUS AND WASHINGTON POST EDITORIAL CLAIMING THAT U.S., DESPITE FOREWARNINGS IN RECENT MONTHS OF POSSIBLE MOVE BY GREEK JUNTA, DID NOTHING TO FORESTALL COUP BECAUSE OF STRATEGIC INTERESTS IN EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. THUS ARTICLE STRONGLY HINTS AT U.S. DUPLICITY REGARDING COUP.

4. ON CYPRUS SITUATION ITSELF, PRAVDA CARRIES TEXT OF AKEL APPEAL TO CYPRIOT PEOPLE TO CONTINUE RESISTANCE. BEIRUT - DATELINED REPORT ON STATUS OF FIGHTING REPORTS CONTINUED SHOOTING IN MAJOR CENTERS. STORY REPORTS SAMPSON HAS TAKEN OATH AS PRESIDENT AND ASSERTS THAT AS EDITOR OF EXTREME RIGHTIST PAPER HE HAS KNOWN TIES WITH ATHENS AND EOKA-2. SEPARATE TASS STORY REPORTS MAKARIOS' SURVIVAL AND HIS APPEAL TO CYPRIOT PEOPLE. OTHER TASS ITEMS REPORT TURKISH DECISION TO CALL SPECIAL SESSION OF PARLIAMENT AND LONDON FOREIGN OFFICE STATEMENT SAYING UK STILL CONSIDERS MAKARIOS PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS. TASS ALSO REPORTS REACTIONS FROM VARIETY OF CAPITALS EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR MAKARIOS AND CONDEMNING PUTSCH. STOESEL

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